

Pakistan Affairs

Q Balochistan insurgency has become dilemma for security dynamics of Pakistan. Elucidate pragmatic measures to cater this issue focusing on three major domains including internal security measures, Iranian equation and socio-economic grievances of locals.

1. Introduction:

The insurgency in Baluchistan poses a profound challenge to Pakistan's security dynamics due to a combination of historical grievances, strategic significance, and active militant movements. To address this, pragmatic measures are required in three major domains including internal security, the Iranian border equation, and addressing socio-economic grievances of locals.

DAY: _____

DATE: _____

DAY: _____

2. Pragmatic measures to cater Balochistan's insurgency:

2.1 Internal

Security measures:

To ensure internal security a combination of actions is needed by Pakistan. These actions are stated below:

1- Combination of Kinetic and Non-Kinetic Approaches:-

To address this revival of insurgency in Balochistan which include revival of BLA and TTP, military operations are needed at very first place. As in past Zarb-e-Azb operation was successful in its objectives.

Soft power must also be applied to resolve this issue.

2- Intelligence based Operations:

Intelligence based operations or IBOs without

collateral damage or less damage and with public confidence should be launched which achieve precise targets. Military operations have very high cost as Zarb-e-Azb had cost of 206 billion PKR and 90,7000 people displaced, infrastructure markets damaged.

3- Strengthening presence of local enforcement and paramilitary with accountability:

To ensure the writ of state local law enforcement should be ensured in the country. Paramilitary must be strengthened and transparency, accountability must be ensured.

4- Negotiations with Strong approach from state's side

State must not negotiate with those committing heinous crimes. State should negotiate with

all others with strong approach
after IBOs to weaken them
and state must demand
de-weaponization of militants.

5- Police reforms needed:

Police vacuum
is causing increase in militancy.
Pakistani government must finance
police, equip them with required
weapons and train them with
latest technology.

6- De-weaponization of war zone areas:

It is very tedious
and long process. state should
purchase weapons from militants
if they do so voluntarily
public weapons display must
be prohibited by state.

2.2 Iranian Equation:

1- Border Manage-

ment: Border management
is necessary and must
be ensured with soft

diplomacy. This is required because cross-border militant movement via Iran's Sistan-Baluchistan region.

2. Diplomatic Cooperation:

Joint operations and intelligence sharing is needed to maintain friendly relations with Iran.

3. Logistical Support:

Pakistan must make and sustain diplomatic ties with Iran.

It is needed for logistical support through Iranian territory to address refugees crisis and smuggling routes.

2.3 Socio-Economic Grievances of Locals:

Insurgency in any country revive in three stages. These stages are:-

- i) Alienation of local Population
- ii) Rise of armed insurgency
- iii) Invitation to foreign involvement

To address the root cause of insurgency socio economic developments are needed to address the grievances of local population in Pakistan.

1- Development Projects:

Development projects are needed especially in war zone areas. People affected by militancy should be offered with alternative options and to ensure transparency check of state is needed on these projects. Pakistan should invest in better infrastructure, education and healthcare in Balochistan especially and generally in the whole country.

DAY: _____

DATE: _____

2- Revenue Sharing:

Balochistan has huge area but less population that is why it is deprived from revenue in many sectors. State must share due revenue with the province from mines and other natural resources.

3- Countering deprivation:

Job creation, local ownership of projects and fair laws are needed to compensate the affected people and generally all deprived ones.

In 2018 it was decided to spend 1000 billion PKR on FATA but till 2025 800 billion PKR ^{should} have been spent but only 150 billion PKR are spent. Same is case in Balochistan.

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DAY: _____

Therefore, state should improve its performance in these areas.

4- Political Representation:

To empower local leaders in Balochistan and to ^{reduce} control of outsiders political representation of province's leaders must be ensured.

3. Conclusion:-

Long term peace depends on inclusion, justice and local empowerment. Therefore, for long term or sustaining peace in the country there is an immediate need for balanced approach involving security, development and diplomacy.